

Published bi-weekly by Read to Me, a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries

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Happy first day of summer! We hope your summer reading programs are going well.

Don't forget to register for two upcoming training events:

First Book Orientation / Every Child Ready to Read Workshop Train-the-Trainer Event: The Commission is sponsoring a training session August 1, 2008 for library staff who will be participating in the Read to Me First Book program and the new Every Child Ready to Read Project.

If your library is interested in participating in these two Read to Me outreach opportunities, **please register online by July 11 at**http://www.eventbrite.com/event/108719182. You are welcome to attend the First Book orientation at 9 a.m. even if you are not participating in that program. If you've already participated in First Books and won't be taking part in the 2008-2009 program, you may plan to arrive at the workshop at 10 a.m.

Saroj Ghoting, a nationally-known presenter and early literacy expert, will be the primary presenter for the Every Child Ready to Read portion of the day. We'll be spending time practicing with the scripts developed for these workshops. Check out the agenda here.

- ALSC Institute: The 2008 ALSC National Institute will be held September 18-20, 2008 in Salt Lake City, Utah. This is a great opportunity for Idaho library staff to attend a national conference without traveling across the country to get there! The Institute is an intensive learning opportunity with a youth services focus. The Commission for Libraries is providing First Time Conference Attendance grants of up to \$900 for anyone employed in a publicly-funded school or public library. Grant application forms can be found here. Click on "Application for First-Time Attendance at a Library Conference 2007." They are due by July 15, 2008. There is no limit on the number of staff per library or school district who can apply. Because this funding comes from LSTA, each library or school district that applies must also submit (only one, even if the library is applying for more than one staff person):
 - LSTA Eligibility Requirements
 - Debarment Certification
 - Civil Rights Certification

School library staff, in particular, should list their home phone and e-mail in case we need to get in touch with you over the summer. **When registering for the conference**, <u>please use this form!</u> Idaho library staff will get a special discount if you do. Unless you are an ALSC or ALA member (or student), register under the "nonmember" category under 25+ for \$405. We're estimating we'll get at least 25 to attend!

See www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscevents/institute/index.cfm for more information about the Institute. A requirement of the grant proposal process is to contact Peggy or Stephanie or Shirley Hansen at the Commission (1-800-458-3271). Also, please feel free to contact us if you have any questions related to attending. We hope to see you there!



the old Oregon Trail half of Twin Falls

Public Library
population of about Louise enjoys doing at the library, buying helping with questions, but her her job is doing like meeting the kids

Meet Louise Nofziger

Louise Nofziger, director of youth services at Buhl Public Library, began her library journey by answering a newspaper ad requesting volunteers who could help repair books. She was looking for something to help her neighbor keep busy and signed them both up for some volunteer service. With Louise's background as an elementary teacher and her ability to dive into a job and get it done, the library quickly persuaded her to join the paid staff and then moved her into the youth services position in 1990. She can't believe this is her 24th year at the library, considering the way "everything all fell into place."



Buhl is located on in the western County. Buhl serves a 4,000 residents. weekly storyhours books, and homework favorite part of outreach. "I really in their space and

talking with them about reading and the library," she said. Louise has participated in the Read to Me First Book program for three years and continues to do outreach visits to area daycares and to the kindergarten and first grade classes in nearby Castleford. She also works closely with the staff at Buhl's elementary school, coordinating field trips to the library for kindergarten classes, helping with family reading events, and doing the Jump Start kindergarten registrations. "Jump Start is great because it gives us a chance to talk to parents and children and 'preach' the library message," she said.

Louise is proudest of the library's successful preschool storyhours, which draw 25-35 families weekly and the summer reading program. The success of the summer reading program is also one of their biggest challenges due to lack of space to put everyone!

Louise grew up in a small town with a very small school. "Once a month the bookmobile would visit the school and I got to go help pick out the books that we could keep in the school library for the month. It was a big treat and I loved those visits. It was like Christmas." she said. During those years, she read all the "Little House" books, some animal books, and classics like *Heidi*. Her favorite children's authors are Mark Teague, especially his book *Pigsty*, and Karma Wilson's Bear books. She still mostly reads children's and young adult books to stay current with everything that's out there, but enjoys reading Karen Kingsbury's inspirational books and the Nina Reilly mystery series set in the Lake Tahoe area by Perri O'Shaughnessy.

Louise is planning on retiring from the library in September, but would really like to finish weeding the junior collection first! She plans on returning to her original intention of volunteering more and hopes to do some "Meals on Wheels" work, but the teachers in Castleford have already asked her to continue her storytimes, so it sounds like she'll be promoting literacy for many years to come. She's also looking forward to spending more time with her llamas, reading, spending time with her family, especially her grandson, and traveling.

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Library to Library



To Be Continued . . .

Garden City Library is trying a new program called "To Be Continued..." on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. The idea is to read a book during a few weeks, discuss it, play games, and then finish it as a group.

Their first book is *No More Dead Dogs*, by Gordon Korman. There will be a "punch card" which will allow children to get their own card punched. If they get five punches they get a free book. The more programs they attend, the more times their name is entered into a raffle for a grand prize. For more information, contact Gaby Magnuson at the Garden City Public Library.

Young Adult Corner



Attracting Teens to the Library

The May 2008 edition of *School Library Journal* asks, "What would Madison Avenue do to attract today's teens?" in an article by Anastasia Goodstein (pages 41-42). Although libraries don't have large advertising budgets, they do know about media that teens use. The author offers tips gleaned from studying young people's online habits and founding a blog about youth culture. Among the tips offered:

"Enlist teens to manage your social media. Yes, even if your library already has its own Web site or page, you still need young people's input."

"Don't try too hard to be cool. Kids can see right through that."

"It's also important to stay on top of the latest research on how teens use technology and which sites are popular and why."

The article concludes by saying, "As librarians, you have the kind of access to young people that most marketers would pay big bucks for. Enjoy the advantage."

Anastasia Goodstein is author of *Totally Wired: What Teens and Tweens Are Really Doing Online* (2007) and created the blog Ypluse to help companies reach Gen Yers. Check it out at www.ypulse.com.



Teen Ink

Hundreds of libraries link to a website for teenage readers and writers called Teen Ink, (http://www.teenink.com). Now celebrating their 20th anniversary, TeenInk.com provides young adults a place to:

- Submit their own work for *Teen Ink* publication
- Read over 19,000 pages of other teen work
- Read and write for the Teen Ink blogs
- Get advice on writing, college, photography and much more from teen authors
- Check out hundreds of young adult book, movie and music reviews

In addition, the site publishes a monthly print magazine read by millions of teenagers in libraries and schools nationwide. Teen Ink has also published seven very successful books written entirely by teens. If you have not seen the print magazine, you can request a free copy from their website at http://teenink.com/Sample/

Teen Ink magazine has published more than 45,000 teenagers in print and there is no charge to submit or to be published. Anyone age 13-19 is eligible to be published and anyone can request a free copy from the website. As a nonprofit organization, Teen Ink is not selling anything to teens, but is committed to publishing their words and works.

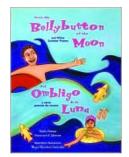
If you are a librarian or you run a website geared towards teens, linking is simple and all the instructions are provided online at http://www.teenink.com/About/link.php.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call at 800-363-1986 or email Tausha Huo at Tasha@teenink.com.

Book Look

What's your favorite beach read? Send us an email with a brief review and we'll publish them in the July and August issues.

Here are some titles that celebrate summer:



From the Bellybutton of the Moon / Del Ombligo de la Luna: And Other Summer Poems/ Y Otros Poemas de Verano by Francisco X. Alarcon

This collection of poems in English and Spanish celebrate the author's memories of summer visits to Mexico during his childhood.

Ten Flashing Fireflies. By Philemon Sturges

Two children catch fireflies on a summer night, putting them one by one into a jar until all ten are caught, and then they let them out to watch all ten fly away.

How I Spent My Summer Vacation by Mark Teague

A young boy tells his class about his summer vacation, during which he joined a group of cowboys and stopped a cattle stampede.

Amelia Bedelia Goes Camping by Peggy Parish

As always, Amelia Bedelia follows exactly the instructions on a camping trip, including pitching a tent and rowing boats.

The Hayloft by Lisa Westberg Peters

Two sisters living on a farm enjoy many summer activities-- especially spending the night in the hayloft.

Henry and Mudge in the Green Time by Cynthia Rylant

For Henry and his big dog Mudge, summer means going on a picnic in the park, taking a bath under the garden hose, and going to the top of the big green hill.

Heat Wave by Eileen Spinelli

Residents of Lumberville try to beat the heat in ways that are surprising and amusing.

The Mermaid Summer by Mollie Hunter

Anna Anderson goes up against a temperamental mermaid bringing her exiled grandfather home and saving her fishing village.

Summer of the Monkeys by Wilson Rawls

Tag along with 14 year old Jay Berry Lee as he attempts to capture 29 monkeys that have (it turns out) escaped from the circus.

Summer of My German Soldier by Bette Greene

When her small hometown in Arkansas becomes the site of a camp housing German prisoners during World War II, 12-year-old Patty Bergen learns what it means to open her heart. Although she's Jewish, she begins to see a prison escapee, Anton, not as a Nazi--but as a lonely, frightened young man with feelings not unlike her own.

Summer Reading Is Killing Me! (Time Warp Trio) by Jon Scieszka, illustrated by Lane Smith

Sam, Fred, and Joe--the Time Warp Trio--find themselves face-to-beak with a giant, 266-pound chicken ... who, unfortunately, looks hungry. It seems the boys are in the middle of Daniel Pinkwater's The Hoboken Chicken Emergency! How did they get there? Fred accidentally stuck the school's summer reading list between the pages of "The Book"--a time-warping, green-mist-expelling book that triggers time travel.

Upcoming Events

July 2 - **National Literacy Day** - Although there is no permanently established National Literacy Day, the U.S. Congress designated July 2 as such and that continues to be the date often used to bring attention to issues of adult literacy. For some fun ways to celebrate this day go to

http://homeschooling.about.com/library/bljul2a.htm.

July 4 - **Independence Day** - In the United States, Independence Day (commonly known as the Fourth of July) is a federal holiday commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, declaring independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain. For some fun crafting ideas go to http://familycrafts.about.com/od/independenceday/.

July 13 - **National Summer Learning Day** - Summer is a time when kids relax and recharge their batteries for the coming school year. On the downside, it's often accompanied by 'summer slide'—a loss in knowledge and academic skills. Go to www.nea.org/parents/nsld.html or www.summerlearning.org/ for more information.

July 14 – **Bastille Day** - The French national holiday, commemorates the storming of the Bastille, which took place on 14 July 1789 and marked the beginning of the French Revolution. The Bastille was a prison and a symbol of the absolute and arbitrary power of Louis the 16th's Ancient Regime. For more see: http://french.about.com/library/weekly/aa071400.htm

Looking further ahead, save these dates:

September 27-October 4: Banned Book Week. www.ala.org/bbooks

October 12-18: **Teen Read Week**. The theme for 2008 is Books with Bite @ your library. More than 4,800 school and public libraries officially participated last year. Register at www.ala.org/teenread.

November 7-9: Young Adult Library Services Association Young Adult Literature Symposium, www.ala.org/ala/yalsa.

November 16-22: **Idaho Family Reading Week.** This year we're going with a pirate theme: "AAARRR You Reading?" Watch for packets in early September.

March 8-14, 2009: **Teen Tech Week 2009**. The 2009 theme is Press Play @ your library.

Authors' Birthdays in July:

July 2 - **Jean Craighead George** (born in 1919). Jean was born in a family of naturalists. Her father, mother, brothers, aunts and uncles were students of nature. On weekends they camped in the woods near their Washington, D.C. home, climbed trees to study owls, gathered edible plants and made fish hooks from twigs. Her first pet was a turkey vulture. In third grade she began writing and hasn't stopped yet. She has written over 100 books some of which include: *My Side of the Mountain, Animals Who Have Won Our Hearts, Gull Number 737* and other stories about the wonders of nature. For more see http://www.jeancraigheadgeorge.com/.

July 11 – **Elwyn Brooks (E.B.) White** (1899-1985). He was born in Mount Vernon, New York, and graduated from <u>Cornell University</u> with a <u>Bachelor of Arts</u> degree in 1921. In the late 1930s, White turned his hand to <u>children's fiction</u> on behalf of a niece, Janice Hart White. He is the author of *Shiloh, The Fear Place, Charlotte's Web, Stuart Little, The Trumpet of the Swan*, and more. Read about this author at: www.harperchildrens.com/authorintro/index.asp?authorid=10499.

- July 14 **Peggy Parish** (1927-1988). She developed a love for reading at an early age and, even as a child, enjoyed writing very much. Her first book, *My Golden Book of Manners*, was published in 1961; this was followed by *Let's Be Indians* in 1962. A parent of one of the students, who was an editor of adult books, found out she was trying to break into the writing field and introduced her to an editor at Harper who helped improve her skills as a storyteller. This, of course, led to her biggest breakthrough --- the creation of *Amelia Bedelia* in 1963. More can be found at http://www.kidsreads.com/series/series-amelia-author.asp
- July 28 **Helen Beatrix Potter** (1866 1943). She was an English author and illustrator, mycologist, and conservationist, best known for her children's books which featured animal characters such as Peter Rabbit. Potter published 23 children's books which continue to sell well throughout the world, in multiple languages. Her stories have been retold in various formats, including a ballet, films and in animation. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beatrix Potter or http://wiredforbooks.org/kids.htm for more.
- July 29 **Sharon Creech** (born in 1945). She was born in South Euclid, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland, and grew up there with her noisy and rowdy family: parents (Ann and Arvel), a sister (Sandy), and three brothers (Dennis, Doug and Tom). While teaching great literature, she learned so much about writing: about what makes a story interesting and about techniques of plot and characterization and point of view. She started out writing novels for adults, but then penned *Absolutely Normal Chaos*, and ever since that book has written mainly about young people. Some of her works include: *Absolutely Normal Chaos, Granny Torreli Makes Soup* and more. Find out more about Creech at http://www.sharoncreech.com/meet/bio.asp.
- July 31 **Joanne "Jo" Rowling** (born in 1965.) She writes under the <u>pen name</u> J. K. Rowling, is a <u>British writer</u> and author of the <u>Harry Potter fantasy</u> series, the idea for which was conceived whilst on a train trip from <u>Manchester</u> to <u>London</u> in 1990. The Potter books have gained worldwide attention, won multiple awards, and sold nearly 400 million copies. Aside from writing the Potter novels, Rowling is equally famous for her "rags to riches" life story, in which she progressed from living on welfare to multimillionaire status within five years. For more go to http://www.jkrowling.com/en/.



Enjoy this song created by Tracee Yawger, Children's Librarian, Spring Township Library, Wyomissing, PA. to celebrate the beginning of the 2008 summer reading season. Every quarter Tracee creates a new thematic song for the kids to learn during her story times. This summer she added a song for the staff too. Thanks for sharing with other CSLP libraries!

'Twas the First Day of Summer Reading

'Twas the second week of June / And all across Berks The librarians were muttering /And so were the clerks

The children are coming! / We said with a cry As we donned buggy t-shirts / And turned with a sigh

To welcome the hordes / Of munchkins invading As adults turned to flee / From the squeals unabating

For months we'd been gathering / Piles of stuff Bundles of twist-ties, chenille, / Toilet rolls and fluff

And as boxes and bags /Grew perilously tall To-do lists unending / Surrounded us all

Yet as they arrived / And we saw their delight All the worry and stress / Grew wings and took flight

So we sang about bugs / And we guffawed and we giggled And we read about beetles / And worms that do wriggle

And I heard one young child / On the way out the door "Please, please, please, Mama, / Can we come back for more?"



Update on the Fred Meyer Fund "Books for Summer Readers"

The Commission received a \$15,000 grant from the **Fred Meyer Fund** to provide for "Books for Summer Readers" at public libraries. Libraries who signed up by the deadline of May 9th (see the list here) will receive a shipment of books by the end of June. The quantity of books a library will receive depends on the number of summer

readers from last year's statistics. The grant allows us to reach 6,100 children with a free book. Our target date is June 26th to begin mailing books to libraries.



Free Resource for "Catch the Reading Bug"

What's the BIG Idea?™ is a program created by Mother Goose Programs™ with funding provided by the National Science Foundation. This program provides professional development and materials to help public librarians incorporate math and science into their programming and resources for young children ages 3-7 and their families. A Companion Guide to "Catch the Reading Bug" for librarians is available free online at

http://www.mothergooseprograms.org/osc/product_info.php?products_id=2651 or purchased for \$20/copy at

http://www.mothergooseprograms.org/osc/product_info.php?products_id=2650

For more information about "What's the Big Idea?" visit their website: http://bigidea.mothergooseprograms.org/m_WTBI_overview.php.

School Zone

School data important

Don't forget that the Commission is collecting public school library statistics. The goal is for at least 200 school libraries to complete the survey. So far 76 schools have completed their survey. Go to http://libraries.idaho.gov/school-library-stats for more information on the online collection tool and how to get your school's username and password. If you have any questions at all, please contact Frank Nelson at frank.nelson@libraries.idaho.gov or 1-800-548-6212. Frank would love to talk to you about this project! You can also talk to Debby Wylie, debby.wylie@libraries.idaho.gov, at the same number. Data should be submitted by June 15, although submissions will be accepted over the summer.

Know the Numbers

Kids & Family Reading Report

A new study released on June 11, 2008, finds that 75% of kids age 5-17 agree with the statement, "No matter what I can do online, I'll always want to read books printed on paper," and 62% of kids surveyed say the prefer to read books printed on paper rather than on a computer or a handheld device. The Kids & family Reading Report, a national survey of children age 5-17 and their parents, also found that kids who go online to extend the reading experience—by going to book or author websites or connecting with other readers—are more likely to read books for fun every day. The report was conducted by Scholastic, the global children's publishing, education and media

company, and TSC, a division of Yankelovich, a leader in consumer trends research. A follow up to a similar 2006 study, the 2008 Kids & Family Reading Report again found that the time kids spend reading books for fun declines after age eight and continues to drop off through the teen years.

Among the key findings:

- Kids overwhelming (89%) say "My favorite books are the ones I picked out myself."
- Sixty-eight percent (68%) of kids say they love or like reading books for fun a lot (72% of girls / 63% of boys). Half of all kids say there aren't enough really good books for boys/girls their age.

The full report may be downloaded at

http://www.scholastic.com/aboutscholastic/news/kfrr08web.pdf. The Scoop will feature more findings from the report in futures issues.



A Closer Look at Read to Me minigrant projects

Thirty Libraries Awarded \$5,000 Grants

Thanks to funding from the Idaho Legislature, thirty Idaho libraries will be implementing early literacy programs and services in their communities over the next year. As part of the Read to Me expansion, \$150,000 was allocated as one-time funding for the minigrant program. The Commission will request an increase of \$350,000 as part of its fiscal year 2010 budget in ongoing funds that would provide 70 mini-grants annually.

Forty libraries submitted applications making the grant round very competitive. We appreciate all the libraries who applied which will help us demonstrate the need for increased funding in the future. Funded projects will begin July 1st and run through June 30, 2009.

Many of the projects are multi-faceted, but here is a brief summary of the funded projects based on the best practices they will promote:

Every Child Ready to Read parent/child workshops – Libraries will host two sixweek sessions to inform parents about the six early literacy skills and provide them with hands-on activities to do with their children at home.

- Star Community Branch Library, Ada Community Library
- American Falls District Library

- Boise Public Library
- Jerome Public Library
- Kellogg Public Library and Pinehurst Branch Library
- Nampa Public Library
- Kooskia Branch and Kamiah Branch libraries, Prairie River Library District
- Snake River School/Community Library in Blackfoot

Early literacy training for parents and childcare providers –

- Boise Basin Library will create kits with materials and instructions for activities to support the six early literacy skills. The kits will be distributed to daycares, and the library will also do training for daycare providers.
- Portneuf District Library in Chubbuck will provide early literacy sessions focused on the six early literacy skills and storytimes on a monthly basis for teen parents. The library will also provide training to childcare providers who care for the children at the Teen Parent Center.

Outreach – Libraries will provide early literacy services to families in the community.

- Armoral Tuttle Public Library in New Plymouth will provide outreach to daycare centers.
- Bear Lake County District Library in Montpelier will provide a storytime to three daycare facilities twice a month. The library will also provide a rotating deposit collection for the centers.
- Hayden Library, a branch of Kootenai Shoshone Area Libraries, will work with an elementary school to provide a reading motivation program for second graders.
 Parents will be encouraged to visit the public library.
- Larsen-Sant Public Library in Preston will implement FRED (Fathers Reading Every Day) to encourage fathers to read with their children. The library will also purchase thematic collections of books and hands-on educational activities that appeal to busy dads that they can check out from the library.
- The Salmon Public Library will provide storytimes to Head Start parents and daycare providers in their community. They will also provide early literacy training for the daycare providers.
- The Marshall Public Library in Pocatello will provide outreach to children at various community locations (parks, schools, daycare centers) through storytimes and distribution of free books. The library will also host Every Child Ready to Read workshops.
- The Patricia Romanko Public Library in Parma will provide a storytime, a craft experience, and a free book to children in four daycare centers each month. They will also host a family event at a picnic in the park.
- Rigby City Library will take storytime and a rotating deposit collection to daycares in the community.

 The South Bannock District Library in Downey will provide monthly storytimes for daycare providers and will create thematic kits for the centers that highlight each of the six early literacy skills.

Storytimes for babies, toddlers and caregivers or bilingual storytimes that incorporate the six early literacy skills.

- Caldwell Public Library
- Menan Branch Library, Jefferson County District Library
- Lewiston City Library, North Bingham County District Library in Shelley, and the Soda Springs Public Library will offer access to a virtual storytime at the library by adding an Early Literacy Station featuring 34 top-rated educational software programs geared to preschoolers to support the six early literacy skills.
- Payette Public Library will implement a storytime for babies and toddlers and will target Head Start parents, daycare providers, and teen parents.

The Read to Me project coordinators will be working closely with these libraries and will be publishing more in depth project updates in *The Scoop* throughout the year. If you have questions about the project, please contact Stephanie or Peggy (1-800-458-3271 or 334-2150 in the Boise calling area).

Tips & Tools

Youth Garden Grants Program

The National Gardening Association has announced that Home Depot will return as the Youth Garden Grants sponsor for 2009. NGA awards Youth Garden Grants to schools and community organizations with child-centered garden programs. In evaluating grant applications, priority will be given to programs that emphasize one or more of the following elements: educational focus or curricular/program integration; nutrition or plant-to-food connections; environmental awareness/education; entrepreneurship; and social aspects of gardening such as leadership development, team building, community support, or service-learning.

Schools, youth groups, community centers, camps, clubs, treatment facilities, and intergenerational groups in the United States are eligible to apply. Applicants must plan to garden with at least fifteen children between the ages of 3 and 18.

For the 2009 grant cycle, 125 grants are available. Packages are as follows: five programs will receive gift cards valued at \$1,000 (a \$500 gift card to Home Depot and a \$500 gift card to the Gardening with Kids catalog and store) and educational materials from NGA; seventy programs will receive a \$500 gift card to Home Depot and educational materials from NGA; and fifty programs will receive a \$250 gift card to Home Depot and educational materials from NGA. Each award package also includes twelve months of NGA Supporter benefits.

Deadline to apply is November 1, 2008. Visit the NGA's Kidsgardening Web site for complete program information. http://www.kidsgardening.org/YGG.asp (RFP Bulletin, 5/23/08)

News Beyond Idaho

Global Reading Challenge

The Global Reading Challenge is a Battle of the Books program for 4th and 5th graders enrolled in the Seattle Public Schools. The program encourages children to have fun and enjoy the sport of reading. After reading 10 books, children take part in a "Quiz Bowl" game to determine the winner for the city of Seattle. The winning Seattle team takes home the Global Reading Challenge traveling trophy and goes on to a videoconference challenge between Seattle, Kalamazoo, Michigan and Fraser Valley and Coquitlam, British Columbia, Canada. Visit the Seattle Public Library's website at http://www.spl.org/default.asp?pagelD=audience_children_global to see a list of the books and more information.

Talk Back: We welcome your feedback on anything in The Scoop. Just e-mail <u>Peggy</u> or <u>Stephanie</u> and we'll print your comments in The Scoop.

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Contact Us: *The Scoop* is a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me Program. To contribute or provide suggestions, contact <u>Peggy McClendon</u> or <u>Stephanie Bailey-White</u> at (208) 334-2150 or 1-800-458-3271.